



The Association of California Commissions for Women

ACCW

Draft Minutes for ACCW Meeting

January 15, 2012

1. Call to Order – 9:10 am

2. Roll Call

Araceli Campos - LA City
Argentina Davila-Luevano - Contra Costa County
Charlotte Lesser - LA County
Dana Wellington - Contra Costa County
Diana Goodrow - Ventura County
Gail Teton-Landis - Santa Barbara*
Gwendolyn Hampton - Santa Barbara*
Jan Harper - SLO
Kathy Veder - SLO
Margaret Ballou - Marin County
Marisela Nunez - Santa Clara County
Paula Devine - Glendale
Paulla Ufferheide - SLO
Shivani Desai - Santa Clara County
Suzanne Doty - Santa Clara County
Vicki Milledge - SLO

Alicia Gamez – SF (arrived at 9:30am)*

Lainie Miller – Pasadena (arrived at 9:30am)*

(* indicates non-voting commission because of dues are not current)

3. Approval of Agenda – Paula Devine / Dana Wellington - M/S/A

4. Approval of Minutes of last quarterly meeting – Jan Harper / Diana Goodrow – M/S/A
(Glendale's status changed from provisional to regular membership)

5. Financial Reports

- a. ACCW Background -ACCW was created at beginning of 2000; California had a lot of commissions and the thought was to create an organization to promote collaboration between commissions; we have a lot of reports in the archives that are accessible to everyone; we are not covered by the Brown Act but we are a corporation (as of 2002); we've held 4 state conferences since our inception with the last one being in 2006 in Oakland; Suzanne will look into having a library on the website
- b. Treasurer's Report - Diana Goodrow / Jan Harper – M/S Report will be received and filed
- c. Tax Exempt Status – Still working on tax exempt status; Charlotte will work with Araceli to resolve outstanding issues
- d. Fund Raising for ACCW – LunaFest – series of small, short movies made by women about women that is sponsored by Luna Bars; any monies raised in excess of rental fee can be

kept by organization; Paulla tried to register ACCW but there are time restrictions that would be prohibitive in terms of sending it around to the other commissions; also the commissions can show Miss Representation as a fund-raiser (produced and written by Jennifer Newsome); Diana Goodrow made motion to ask all commissions to recommend a fundraising effort (either LunaFest or showing Miss Representation) and to consider making a donation to ACCW from the proceeds, Charlotte Lesser seconded, M/S/A

- e. Report of Due Paying Members – currently have 11 commissions who are current; 1 in the mail (Current members: Alameda, Contra Costa, Glendale, LA City and Co., Marin, SLO, Santa Monica, Sonoma, Santa Clara, Ventura)

6. Committee Reports

- a. Membership – Araceli passed around the list of commissions asking for update; suggested the current commissions buddy up with non-members to recruit them to ACCW; SLO had been in danger of elimination until they conducted a survey of the women in SLO to present to the BOS which gave the commission credibility and prevented their elimination; look at forming city commissions if a county commission is in danger of elimination; Jan Harper will contact Bonnie Coffey and get copy of her report on How To Save Your Commission and will give it to Z; Suzanne suggested that we develop a new category of ACCW Associate Member that will allow former members that are no longer commissioners to stay connected – a nonvoting member – Lainie Miller / Jan Harper; Lainie Miller / Jan Harper offered a friendly amendment that we amend our bylaws to incorporate this category of membership – M/S/A; original motion – M/S/A
- b. Communications/Website – Please look at website and send corrections/updates to Suzanne with subject line: Please update website; Same thing for email list
- c. Update from Women's Bureau – see attached report from Jenny Erwin, Regional Administrator for Women's Bureau; link to Women's Bureau and Council on Women and Girls on our web site

7. Unfinished business

- a. Fund Raising CCW – suggest to Beth McGovern / Mary Wiberg that they contact Council on Women and Girl's for support on elimination of CCW; Diana Goodrow moved that the ACCW make a \$500 donation to the CCW – Dana Wellington seconded; M/S/A (voice vote); Diana Goodrow moved that the ACCW pledge our support for the preservation of the CA CSW – Charlotte Lesser seconded; M/S/A

8. New business

- a. Selection of Nominating Committee: Vicki Milledge will chair the Nominating Committee, Charlotte Lesser and Diana Goodrow will serve on that committee
 - 1. President
 - 2. Treasurer
 - 3. Northern CA rep
- b. Spring e-Meeting 2012 – April 12, 2012 at 5pm for next conference call
- c. Location and Date of Annual Meeting 2012 – suggestion that we meet in June in Sacramento; Margaret Ballou, Laura Adler and Jan Harper volunteered to organize this meeting
- d. UN Fifth World Conference on Women 2015 - Alicia passed out information about SF hosting the Conference; Diana moved that the ACCW pass a resolution supporting the effort by SF CSW to host the 5th World Conference and further that all ACCW member commissions also pass a resolution to lend our support to the SF Commission effort to host the 5th World Conference by passing a resolution and asking our local governing bodies to support this effort, seconded by Paula Devine; M/S/A

- e. ACCW Strategic Plan 2012
 - 1. Accept Proposal - (attach proposal) Charlotte Lesser / Jan Harper – M/S/A
 - f. Hosting 2013 NACW Conference – Suzanne Doty / Jan Harper– motion for the ACCW to support hosting the 2013 NACW Conference in San Jose – M/S/A
9. Adjournment – Diana Goodrow / Paula Devine – M/S/A at 11:30am

Additional Discussion Not on Agenda: Gwendolyn Hampton brought up that the CA Supreme Court supported the State's effort to eliminate redevelopment agencies; no plan as to how they are going to wind down; ask Beth McGovern at CA CSW how elimination of redevelopment agencies and loss of funds will impact economically disadvantaged women and their families– do they have data and/or report that we can disseminate to member commissions; put on the agenda for June

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Doty, Secretary

Purpose:

Women's commissions in California work to promote equal status and wellbeing for all women. Due to the current state of the California economy, women's issues face the risk of not being voiced or protected. In fact, the very existence of women's commissions in the state is being questioned. For example, the Governor has proposed completely eliminating funding for the California Commission on the Status of Women.

Therefore, the ACCW has determined a strategy to begin a statewide data gathering exercise, which would enable us to provide hard data on challenges that women continue to face.

Proposal:

We propose that the ACCW develop a number of standard survey questions that will be used across the state. The questions would aim to collect data to identify the needs of women and their families in California. The ACCW committee assigned to this project would distribute the questions to individual commissions. Each commission would either incorporate these questions into their own existing surveys or use them to create a new survey.

The proposed survey will work to collect information that will help raise awareness of the needs of women as well as support our existence. It will lend credibility, visibility, and validity to women's issues and commissions. The exercise will also provide a foundation for future collaborative work across the state, strengthen the voice of the invisible, and provide commissions with a wealth of information to distribute as they wish.



***San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women
Resolution Urging the Reinstatement of the California Commission on the
Status of Women in the State Budget***

BE IT KNOWN that the Commission on the Status of Women of the City and County of San Francisco hereby issues, and authorizes the execution, by the subscribing Commissioners, of the following:

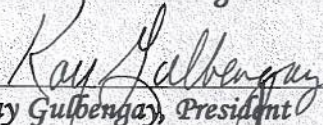
WHEREAS, The California Commission on the Status of Women, a non-partisan state agency established by then-Governor Pat Brown in 1965, works in a culturally inclusive manner to promote equality and justice for all women and girls by advocating on their behalf with the Governor, the Legislature, and other public policymakers, and by educating the public in the areas of economic equity including educational equity, access to health care including reproductive choice, violence against women, and other key issue areas significantly affecting women and girls; and,

WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there are more women than men in the state, accounting for nearly 19 million residents; and, the \$265,000 Women's Commission budget for this fiscal year (a 43% reduction from the \$465,000 in previous years) represents an investment of less than \$0.02 per California woman and an insignificant 0.0002% of the \$137 billion state budget; and,

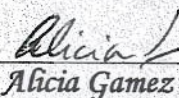
WHEREAS, According to the California Budget Project, the economic downturn has had a disproportionate impact on women, and, undoubtedly, proposed additional cuts to state-funded services in childcare, welfare, eldercare, healthcare, and public education will further exacerbate the impact on women and their families; and,

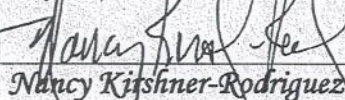
WHEREAS, The integral role of the California Commission on the Status of Women in gathering input from local communities state-wide to advise the Governor, the Legislature, and other public policymakers on critical issues and analyzing proposed legislation and policies designed to address those critical issues has never been more important with the prolonged economic downturn and state-wide budget crisis;

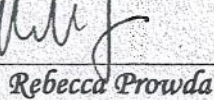
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women urges Governor Jerry Brown to reinstate the funding for the California Commission on the Status of Women to ensure that state government meets the needs of all California residents, including women and girls.


Kay Gulbengaz, President

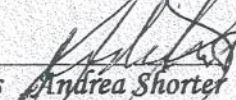

Julie Soo, Vice President


Alicia Gamez


Nancy Kishner-Rodriguez


Rebecca Prowda


Stephanie Simmons


Andrea Shorter

San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women
January 25, 2012



**San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women
Resolution Supporting the Hosting of the
United Nations 5th World Conference on Women 2015 in San Francisco**

BE IT KNOWN that the Commission on the Status of Women of the City and County of San Francisco hereby issues, and authorizes the execution, by the subscribing Commissioners, of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, In the immediate aftermath of World War II, a time of great turmoil and global chaos, San Francisco was selected by then-President Franklin D. Roosevelt as the venue for the United Nations Conference for International Organization, held on April 25, 1945, where 50 nations came together to draft the United Nations Charter which was signed at the War Memorial Veterans Building on June 26, 1945, earning San Francisco the prized title of being the "Birthplace of the United Nations;" and,

WHEREAS, In 1998, San Francisco became the first city in the world to enact a local ordinance reflecting the principles of the U.N. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), an international bill of rights for women which 186 out of 192 member states are parties to, with the glaring exception of the United States, and whose historic enactment was detailed in the 2004 Ford Foundation publication Close to Home: Case Studies of Human Rights Work in the United States so that the issue of human rights could be understood within a U.S. domestic context; and

WHEREAS, The landmark CEDAW Ordinance has formed the basis for groundbreaking work of this Commission, including the gender analyses of 7 City Departments, the first comprehensive report on the status of girls in San Francisco, a report on work-life balance policies within City government, a project on gender budgeting; innovative programmatic and policy responses to violence against women; and,

WHEREAS, The policy work arising from the unique partnership among the sponsors of the Gender Equality Principles Initiative, Calvert Asset Management, Verite, and the Department on the Status of Women, and their partners, including Deloitte, Symantec, and other major employers, has attracted the attention of the U.N. Global Compact, and, ultimately, led to the incorporation of the keystone principles into the U.N. Women's Empowerment Principles launched in March 2010; and this work earned the City and County of San Francisco the prestigious 2010 Americas Award by the UN Institute for Training and Research, the multilateral Organization of American States, and the Jimmy Carter Center; and

WHEREAS, Additionally, San Francisco has announced plans to house the U.N. Global Compact Center at the former location of the Hunters Point Shipyard to promote even greater public-private partnerships in support of the U.N.'s Millennium Development Goals, and create a space for international exchange outside of existing conference facilities in Geneva, Switzerland, and New York City; and,

WHEREAS, In March 2008, the Commission adopted a resolution calling for planning to commence on the 5th World Conference on Women which was forwarded to the U.N. Secretary-General's office through the Women's Intercultural Network; and

WHEREAS, The tradition of United Nations World Conferences on Women began in Mexico City in 1975, heralded as the International Year of the Woman to launch the U.N. Decade for Women; the U.N. General Assembly identified three key objectives that would become the basis for the U.N.'s work on behalf of women:

- Full gender equality and the elimination of gender discrimination;
- The integration and full participation of women in development;
- An increased contribution by women in the strengthening of world peace;

at this inaugural conference, there were 113 official delegations and 4,000 people representing non-governmental organizations (NGO) who, together, issued a World Plan of Action with measurable targets in these areas, to be achieved in 10 years; and,

WHEREAS, The Second World Conference on Women was convened in Copenhagen in 1980, immediately following the historic adoption of the CEDAW by the U.N. General Assembly in December 1979, and focused on the disparity between women's guaranteed rights and actual practices in the areas of education, employment, and health care; and the Copenhagen Program of Action called for expanding national measures to ensure women's property ownership, access to rightful inheritances, child custody, and citizenship rights; and challenged the continued stereotyping of women in society; and,

WHEREAS, The Third World Conference in Nairobi in 1985, attended by 1,400 official delegates of 157 countries and 15,000 NGO representatives, assessed the U.N. Decade for Women, 1975 - 1985, and concluded that much work remained to be done in achieving initial goals of equality, development, and peace; and, despite significant differences in political opinion, economic security, and language/culture, participants unanimously adopted the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, a 15-year action plan that made explicit the need to eradicate violence against women in order to achieve and maintain peace; and,

WHEREAS, The Fourth World Conference in Beijing in 1995 drew 180 government delegations and 2,500 non-governmental groups totalling 35,000 women from across the globe, to discuss the status of women and human rights worldwide and, ultimately, announce the historic Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action that formed the basis for the enactment of the San Francisco CEDAW Ordinance; and,

WHEREAS, San Francisco is at the forefront of the movement for human sustainability focused on creating a world where all people, regardless of gender, race, or other social characteristics, thrive and contribute to the further development of society;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women supports most enthusiastically the hosting of the United Nations 5th World Conference on Women 2015 in San Francisco and urges our Congressional Delegation and Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton to work with U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Susan Rice so that she may secure the necessary support among U.N. Member States to bring the landmark conference to San Francisco.

Kay Gulbengay, President
Rebecca Proctor

Julie Soo, Vice President
Andrea Shorter

San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women
March 23, 2011